

# FLORIDA CITRUS

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April 22, 1964

### INVENTORY OF COMMERCIAL CITRUS TREES IN FLORIDA

The 1963 inventory of commercial citrus trees in Florida is based upon surveys made in a 40 percent sample of the sections in the State which contained commercial citrus trees in 1957 or which, on the basis of location and soil types, are classified as potential citrus land. The data included in this report relating to the bearing surface classification were developed from a sub-sample of groves in citrus sections existing in 1957, and enumerated information on new groves in the sections sampled which were set subsequent to 1957.

Damage from the December 1962 freeze necessitated a survey of sections covered prior to the freeze and a sub-sample of properties and sections surveyed the year before the freeze. Active work in the freeze-damaged counties resulting in the 1963 inventories and age classifications was begun in July 1963 and completed in January 1964. The average survey date for the 1963 data is about October 1.

The sampling error has not been computed, but because of greater variation resulting from the freeze, it is expected to be somewhat greater than the 2.7 percent for the 1962 survey for all citrus trees. The county distribution of trees

in this report is less precise than the State and Area totals. Analysis suggests that the inventories for the larger counties have a reasonable degree of reliability and that the estimates for small counties are serviceable. Check data for recently expanded counties have been sought in an effort to improve these county estimates.

Citrus tree inventories by types and areas have been subdivided into age group sub-classifications based on the amount of bearing surface at the time of the survey. All trees showing life above the bud union were counted in this survey. In general, butt-cut and recently hat-racked trees and young trees set since 1959 make up the one to four year old or non-bearing category.

The 1962 data carried in this report were developed from a 40 percent sample of citrus and potential citrus sections surveyed in 1961 and 1962. The average survey data used in arriving at the 1962 data was about May 1, 1962.

The reduced bearing trees reflected in this report were recognized and accounted for in the citrus forecasts issued during the 1963-64 season by this Service and U.S.D.A.'s Crop Reporting Board.

This tree survey project is financed by matching funds provided by the Florida and United States Departments of Agriculture under the provision of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946. Field inspection and enumeration was performed by the Division of Plant Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture.

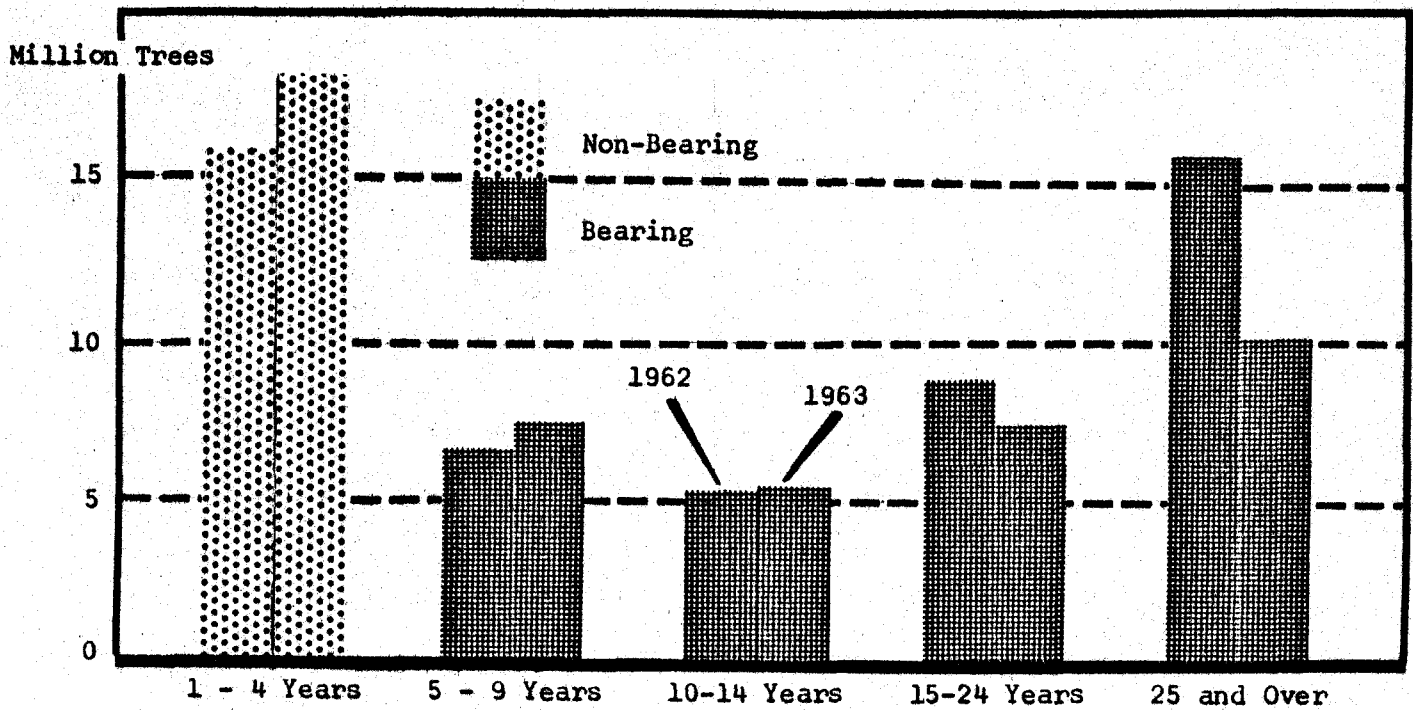
FLORIDA CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTING SERVICE  
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Florida Department of Agriculture  
Division of Marketing

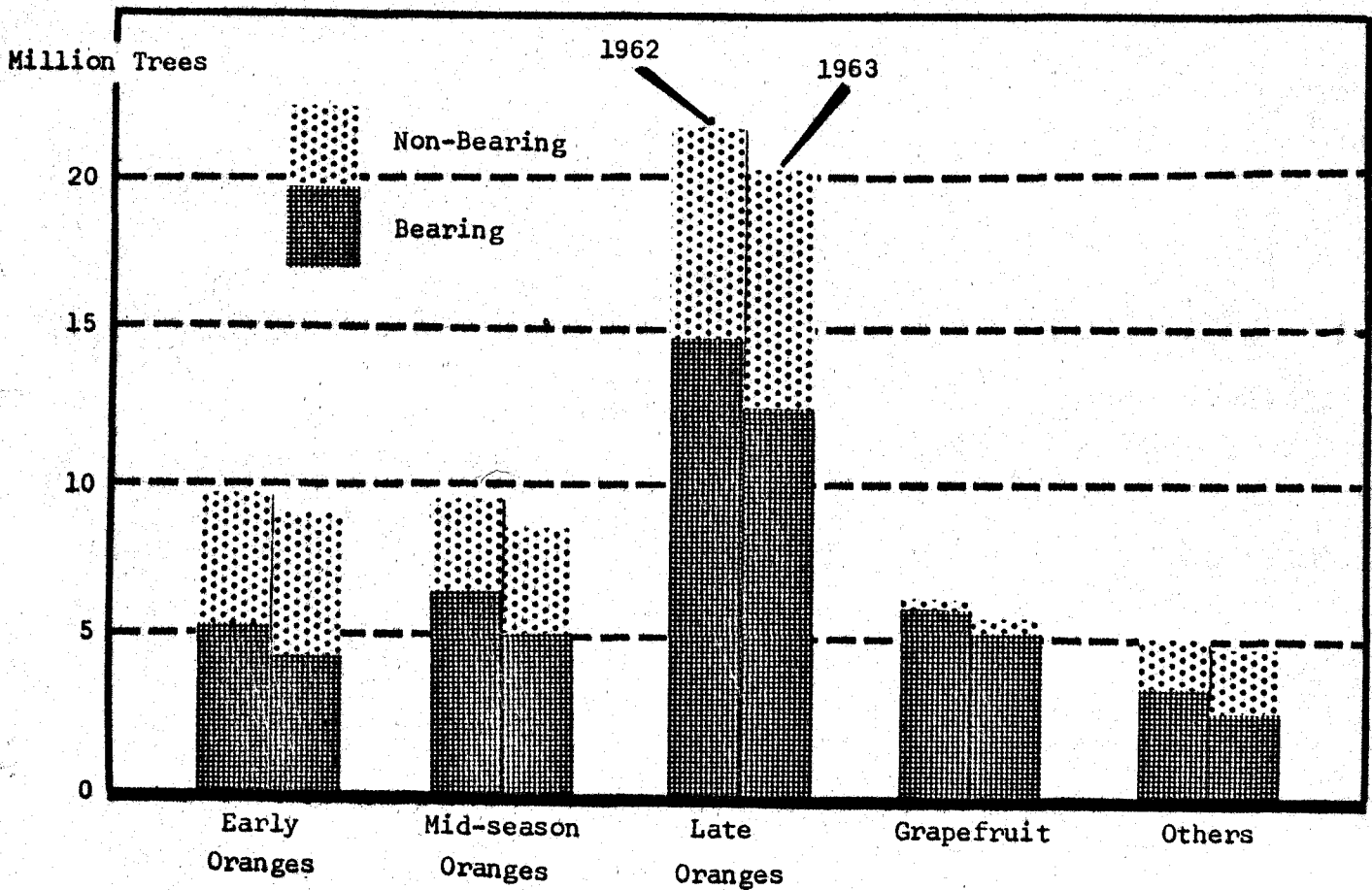
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Statistical Reporting Service

University of Florida  
Agricultural Experiment Stations

FLORIDA: COMMERCIAL CITRUS TREES BY AGE GROUPS, 1962 AND 1963



FLORIDA: COMMERCIAL CITRUS TREES BY TYPES, 1962 AND 1963



COMMERCIAL CITRUS TREES IN FLORIDA

1962 and 1963

(Number of Trees in Thousands)

Type of Fruit	Non-Bearing Trees		Bearing Trees		Total Trees	
	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963
ORANGES:						
Early	4,222	4,405	5,333	4,306	9,555	8,711
Mid-season	2,974	3,474	6,554	5,168	9,528	8,642
Late	6,785	7,720	14,684	12,481	21,469	20,201
GRAPEFRUIT:						
Seedy	41	73	1,954	1,635	1,995	1,708
Seedless	248	423	4,151	3,668	4,399	4,091
HYBRID:						
Temple	340	451	1,371	912	1,711	1,363
Tangelo	357	460	365	294	722	754
MANDARIN:						
Tangerine	142	288	999	787	1,141	1,075
Murcott	463	594	312	303	775	897
LIME, LEMON	187	362	516	460	703	822
OTHER	81	51	77	33	158	84
TOTAL	15,840	18,301	36,316	30,047	52,156	48,348

Since 1962 there has been a loss of 6.3 million bearing citrus trees. This represents a decline of 17 percent in the number of bearing age trees. Trees for this survey were grouped in age classifications based on the amount of remaining bearing surface at time of the survey. This classification places freeze damaged trees in an age group roughly comparable to their present productive capacity. A large number of trees that had been classed as bearing are now in the non-bearing category. This accounts for a total much larger than the sum of all nursery stock set during the past four years. Trees in the one to four year old age classification are regarded as non-bearing in this report.

Most all types showed a fairly significant reduction in bearing numbers with Temples showing the greatest percentage loss; about one-third. Among oranges, late type or Valencias showed least reduction at 15 percent, while early and mid-season declined by 19 and 21 percent respectively. Grapefruit, which are weighted heavily to the east coast area, showed a reduction of only 11.7 percent. Murcotts had less reduction in bearing trees than any other type; however, it is noteworthy that nearly all bearing Murcott trees are in the five to nine year age group.

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FLORIDA: COMMERCIAL CITRUS TREES BY TYPE AND  
BEARING SURFACE CLASSIFICATION, 1963

(Number of Trees in Thousands)

TYPE OF FRUIT	BEARING SURFACE CLASSIFICATION					TOTAL
	1 - 4 Years	5 - 9 Years	10-14 Years	15-24 Years	25 Years and Over	1963
ORANGES:						
Early	4,405	984	688	1,240	1,394	8,711
Mid-season	3,474	1,201	814	1,198	1,955	8,642
Late	7,720	3,578	2,753	2,809	3,341	20,201
GRAPEFRUIT:						
Seedy	73	40	155	348	1,092	1,708
Seedless	423	346	455	1,235	1,632	4,091
HYBRID:						
Temple	451	270	275	298	69	1,363
Tangelo	460	101	57	98	38	754
MANDARIN:						
Tangerine	288	65	86	177	459	1,075
Murcott	594	290	9	4	-	897
LIME, LEMON	362	184	172	68	36	822
OTHER	51	14	9	4	6	84
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,301</b>	<b>7,073</b>	<b>5,473</b>	<b>7,479</b>	<b>10,022</b>	<b>48,348</b>

Only one-third of all bearing trees are now more than 24 years old. Based on the present system of classifying trees by their amount of bearing surface, a large portion of the trees in younger age categories are chronologically much older. In the bearing age oranges, late type are uniformly distributed in all groups, while a combined total for early and mid-season types show substantially fewer numbers in the two younger bearing groups.

More than 37 percent of the 48.3 million commercial trees are now estimated to be in the non-bearing category of one to four years. A large portion of these trees are a result of the 1962 freeze which reduced the bearing surface of many trees to the non-bearing classification. This non-bearing group is composed of nearly as many late type as both early and mid-season trees combined. Relatively few grapefruit are in this group.

The distribution of total trees by age groups indicated that only 20.7 percent of commercial citrus trees have bearing equivalent of 25 or more years. This is a reduction by 37 percent from the 15.9 million trees prior to the 1962 freeze.

FLORIDA: COMMERCIAL CITRUS TREES BY AREA AND BEARING SURFACE CLASSIFICATION, 1963

(Number of Trees in Thousands)

TYPE OF FRUIT AND AREA	BEARING SURFACE CLASSIFICATION					TOTALS	
	1 - 4 Years	5 - 9 Years	10-14 Years	15-24 Years	25 Years and Over	1963	1962
<b>EAST COAST AREA</b>							
Oranges	3,050	547	575	615	899	5,686	4,025
Grapefruit	261	200	302	787	756	2,306	2,178
Others	535	188	233	178	32	1,166	911
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,846</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>1,110</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>1,687</b>	<b>9,158</b>	<b>7,114</b>
<b>UPPER INTERIOR</b>							
Oranges <sup>1/</sup>	4,300	1,699	2,188	2,431	2,109	12,727	16,130
Grapefruit	87	75	82	395	448	1,087	1,440
Others	879	425	127	232	285	1,948	2,344
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,266</b>	<b>2,199</b>	<b>2,397</b>	<b>3,058</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>15,762</b>	<b>19,914</b>
<b>LOWER INTERIOR</b>							
Oranges <sup>1/</sup>	4,601	2,390	699	1,608	3,172	12,470	12,262
Grapefruit	100	51	137	253	1,265	1,806	1,908
Others	439	207	73	176	275	1,170	1,198
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,140</b>	<b>2,648</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>2,037</b>	<b>4,712</b>	<b>15,446</b>	<b>15,368</b>
<b>WEST COAST</b>							
Oranges	3,646	1,126	793	596	510	6,671	8,135
Grapefruit	48	60	91	146	255	600	868
Others	355	106	174	60	16	711	757
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,049</b>	<b>1,292</b>	<b>1,058</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>7,982</b>	<b>9,760</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Interior counties divide with Lake, Osceola in upper and Polk in lower area.

Substantial shifts have occurred in area and age group distribution of tree numbers since the 1962 survey. East coast area indicates a two million tree increase, 80 percent of which is oranges. But this was far more than offset by a combined loss of 5.9 million trees in upper interior and west coast areas, with 21 and 18 percent loss respectively. Tree numbers increased slightly in the lower interior counties as recent settings more than offset freeze losses.

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**FLORIDA: COMMERCIAL CITRUS TREES BY TYPE BY COUNTIES**  
(Number of Trees in Thousands)

COUNTY	ORANGES		GRAPEFRUIT		HYBRIDS 1/ AND OTHERS		LIMES, LEMONS		TOTAL TREES	
	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963
Brevard	1,054	1,134	345	319	107	122	5	20	1,511	1,595
Broward	243	292	50	48	11	12	1	-	305	352
Charlotte	92	179	4	7	11	13	-	1	107	200
Citrus	130	87	4	1	12	8	-	-	146	96
Collier	62	150	-	-	-	2	-	4	62	156
Dade	20	18	5	5	9	10	293	313	327	346
DeSoto	758	879	58	50	36	81	6	1	858	1,011
Glades	28	76	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	76
Hardee	2,353	2,132	51	44	87	81	22	11	2,513	2,268
Hendry	131	195	7	8	5	5	-	-	143	208
Hernando	758	667	11	5	106	89	-	-	875	761
Highlands	1,619	1,568	183	197	154	195	60	47	2,016	2,007
Hillsboro	3,331	3,027	210	185	216	231	64	76	3,821	3,519
Indian River	687	1,098	937	964	106	119	1	1	1,731	2,182
Lake	7,338	5,681	1,037	772	1,293	1,054	28	10	9,696	7,517
Lee	102	124	25	22	11	13	10	11	148	170
Manatee	721	753	171	124	79	100	13	10	984	987
Marion	1,080	716	19	15	32	12	-	4	1,131	747
Martin	510	1,056	38	33	22	26	3	161	573	1,276
Okeechobee	35	75	3	16	2	19	-	-	40	110
Orange	4,014	3,426	234	160	577	507	6	5	4,831	4,098
Osceola	1,222	984	47	49	84	62	1	-	1,354	1,095
Palm Beach	74	115	25	24	22	26	1	-	122	165
Pasco	2,442	1,563	155	124	198	135	8	3	2,803	1,825
Pinellas	401	279	295	142	44	28	1	1	741	450
Polk	7,085	7,092	1,577	1,462	615	546	176	141	9,453	9,241
Putnam	338	258	12	12	35	36	-	-	385	306
Sarasota	112	139	16	16	7	9	-	-	135	164
Seminole	1,252	883	47	45	148	147	1	-	1,448	1,075
St. Lucie	1,436	1,974	778	912	328	354	3	2	2,545	3,242
Sumter	235	156	6	3	14	20	-	-	255	179
Volusia	830	749	41	34	127	105	-	-	998	888
Others	59	29	3	1	9	6	-	-	71	36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40,552</b>	<b>37,554</b>	<b>6,394</b>	<b>5,799</b>	<b>4,507</b>	<b>4,173</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>52,156</b>	<b>48,348</b>

1/ Temples are included in Hybrids and Others.

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